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The University of Dayton

News Release

FOUR TO CELEBRATE RELIGIOUS JUBILEES AT UD

DAYTON, Ohio, April 30, 1981 -- Four Dayton Marianists will celebrate jubilees on Sunday, May 3. Brother Joseph Janning, S.M. will mark his 75th year in the Society of Mary; Reverend Adrian McCarthy, S.M., will celebrate his 50th year as a Marianist; Reverend Edwin M. Leimkuhler, S.M. will commemorate 50 years as a priest; Brother John Kiyomu Maeda, S.M., visiting from Japan, will mark 50 years as a religious brother.

Mass will be celebrated at the Alumni Hall chapel on the University of Dayton campus at 10:30 a.m. on May 3 and will be followed by dinner for family and friends of the jubilarians.

Brother Joseph Janning, S.M., 93, is a native of Dayton. He began his career in Cleveland as a teacher at St. Mary's grade school in 1908. He later taught at Cathedral Latin in Cleveland and at Covington Catholic in Covington, Kentucky. He also helped to establish West Philadelphia Catholic High School for Boys.

During World War I Brother Janning taught at St. Joseph College in Yokohama, Japan. He remained there until 1929. While in Japan he organized Troop No. 1, International Boy Scouts of the World. It was the first troop organized outside of the United States or England and is still in existence. On September 1, 1923, he survived the devastating Yokohama earthquake which killed many of his colleagues and students.

After returning from Japan, Brother Janning founded Chaminade High School in Santa Cruz, California. In 1933, he again left the U.S. and organized the Marianist Mission in China. He served on the faculty of the Catholic University in Peking until being sent to a Japanese concentration camp during World War II.

In 1943 he returned to Dayton. For the next 23 years he taught mathematics at Chaminade High School in Dayton (now Chaminade-Julienne High School). Brother Janning spent six years working with the adult programs at Bergamo Center before retiring at Bergamo in 1973.

Reverend Adrian J. McCarthy, S.M., 67, was born in Cleveland, Ohio. He is professor emeritus of the UD Department of English. Father McCarthy has taught at the University since 1958 and was chairman of the Department of English and Speech from 1958 to 1962.

Following his graduation from UD in 1934, he taught at Chaminade High School in Mineola, Long Island for five years. He then studied for the priesthood at the University of Fribourg, Switzerland, and at Catholic University in Washington, D.C.

Father McCarthy taught for one year at Chaminade High School in Dayton in 1943-44. He then served as military chaplain with the U.S. Army in the Philippine Islands and Japan during World War II.

Following the war he taught again for three years at Chaminade in Dayton. Between 1950 and 1958 Father McCarthy completed a Master of Arts degree in English at New York University and a Ph.D. at Fordham University.

From 1965 to 1967 Fr. McCarthy was editor of Mary Today, a religious periodical formerly published by the Marian Library at UD.

Since his retirement two years ago from full-time teaching, Fr. McCarthy has continued to teach part-time in the Department of English and maintains ongoing research and writing interests.

Reverend Edwin M. Leimkuhler, S.M., 81, is the former chairman of the Department of Religion (Religious Studies) at UD and former president of Trinity College in Sioux City, Iowa.

A native of Baltimore, Maryland, Fr. Leimkuhler joined the Society of Mary in 1914. As a young Marianist he taught grade school and high school in Cincinnati, Brooklyn (NY), Dayton, and Philadelphia. In 1927 he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree

in Philosophy at Catholic University of America. He later completed a Master's degree there too. In 1931, following studies for the priesthood in Fribourg, Switzerland, he was ordained a priest. Following his ordination he taught high school in Mineola, NY (Chaminade) and Cincinnati (Purcell).

From 1934 until 1940 Fr. Leimkuhler was chairman of the UD Department of Religion (now Religious Studies). In 1940 he became president of Trinity College in Iowa, a position he held until his return to UD in 1944 as professor and chairman of the Department of Religion. He retired in 1957.

From 1963 until 1975 Fr. Leimkuhler taught ethics courses in the UD Master of Business Administration program. A well-known religious scholar he is known nationally as the editor of "Catholic Action Reprints," a subscription service he started in 1946.

UD alumna and recent honorary degree recipient Erma Bombeck attributes her conversion to Catholicism to the efforts of Fr. Leimkuhler.

Brother John Kiyomu Maeda, S.M., 67, was born in Nagasaki, Japan in a Catholic family with 9 brothers and sisters. The family was descended from Christians converted by St. Francis Xavier four hundred years ago. During the Tokugawa Shogunate persecution in the 16th century, his ancestors hid themselves in remote parts of the country, pretending to be Buddhists, for nearly 300 years. They were discovered about 100 years ago by Bishop Petigens of the Paris Mission Congregation.

At the age of 12, John entered the Marianist Apostolic School in Nagasaki where he was taught by French and American Marianists. In 1931 at the age of 17 he made his first profession of vows and, after study at universities in Tokyo and Kyushu, he taught in a number of high schools in Japan. He had learned enough of the essentials of English to be one of only two brothers able to teach it to his fellow Japanese brothers.

In 1943 Brother John was drafted into the military and spent a year and 3 months at hard labor digging tunnels into mountainsides for protection of the people against possible air raids. "It was a terrible period," says Brother John.

In 1960, he was given a year's leave of absence to enter the Second Novitiate at Glencoe, St. Louis where he spent a lonely period because of the difficulty he had in following the language of the American brothers there.

From 1964-1977, he served as principal of Bright Star School in Osaka, Japan, and was later made chairman of the trustees of that institution.

In 1980, at the age of 66, he was permitted to return to the United States and has been living with the Marianist Community at Alumni Hall at the University of Dayton since last August. He is extremely grateful for the help and treatment he has received here although he still finds some difficulty with the language.

Brother John asks that "God give BANZAI -- a million years --" to UD and all of his fellow Marianists here.